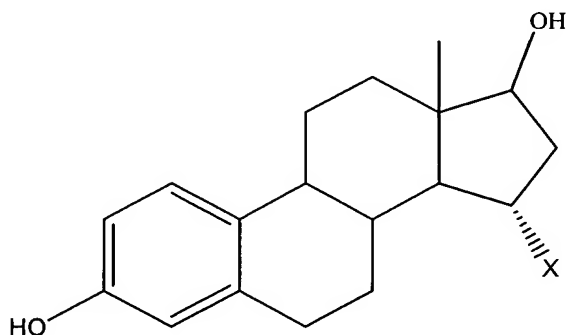


### Abstract

The present invention relates to analogs of estradiol, which, in their most preferred embodiment, act as locally active estrogens without significant systemic action. A series of 15 $\alpha$ -estradiol ester compounds is presented which exhibit excellent biological activity for use in pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of symptomology associated with menopause. The present invention is therefore directed to compounds according to the structure:



where X is  $(\text{CH}_2)_m\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}\text{COR}$

R is H, a C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>5</sub> alkyl group, optionally substituted with at least one halogen group, such as CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>F, or other group (e.g., CH<sub>2</sub>CHF<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub> or CF<sub>3</sub> group), and m is from 0-5, preferably from 0-2.